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August 27, 2009

The Honorable Raymond LaHood, Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington DC 20590

RE: Mercer Corridor Project TIGER grant application

Dear Secretary LaHood:

On behalf of the Trustees, members and patrons of the Museum of History & Industry, I am writing this letter in strong support of the City of Seattle's Mercer Corridor Project TIGER grant application. With your support of the Mercer Corridor Project, the Department of Transportation will be helping solve one of the most intractable transportation dilemmas in our region, transforming a dangerous, inefficient and deteriorated roadway into a highly efficient, safe transportation corridor that supports mobility and livability in our region's urban core.

MOHAI is particularly supportive of the grant application because, like many other Seattle businesses and households, we are relocating to the South Lake Union neighborhood in the next few years, and will be directly impacted by the transportation systems serving the area. The current roadway puts museum visitors (expected to exceed 120,000 annually, including thousands of young people and their families) at risk and serves as a serious impediment to the broad public access to and enjoyment of the museum and other attractions at Lake Union Park.

MOHAI's commitment to the neighborhood represents an investment of over \$60 million of private and public funds, and will result in a regional attraction that serves a multi-county area for generations. Enhancing the Mercer Corridor is a key component in realizing the success of this important community initiative, and I strongly encourage your support of the Mercer Corridor TIGER grant application.

Thank you for your consideration, and if I can provide additional information, please do not hesitate to call me at (206) 324-1126, ext. 32.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leonard Garfield". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Leonard" and last name "Garfield" clearly legible.

Leonard Garfield
Executive Director